AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A power control unit for controlling a power supply of a computer, which operates by obtaining a power supply from a main power source during normal operation, in a vehicle including an unlocking detecting section for detecting whether or not a door of the vehicle is unlocked, an ignition key detecting section for detecting whether or not an ignition key is switched from ~~ON to OFF~~ OFF to ON, and an auxiliary battery for supplying power to the computer, said power control unit comprising:

an auxiliary battery control section for booting up the computer by starting ~~a~~ the power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked; and

a power source switching section for stopping a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer and starting a power supply from the main power source to the computer when the ignition key detecting section detects that the ignition key is switched from OFF to ON during the power supply from the auxiliary battery.

2. (Currently Amended) The power control unit according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary battery control section ~~monitors~~ is operable to monitor an amount of power remaining in the auxiliary battery, and ~~boots~~ to boot up the computer by starting a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer only when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked and the amount of power remaining in the auxiliary battery is equal to or greater than a predetermined value.

3. (Currently Amended) The power control unit according to claim 1, further comprising a state determining section for determining a start state and end state of the computer, wherein

the auxiliary battery control section ~~boots~~ is operable to boot up the computer by starting a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer only when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked and the state determining section determines that the

computer is in a state in which it ~~is not capable to~~ cannot be booted up unless an initial boot-up is completed.

4. (Currently Amended) The power control unit according to claim 1, wherein

the ignition key of the vehicle and the auxiliary battery control section include authentication information for identifying a user of the vehicle,

the vehicle ~~obtains~~ is operable to obtain the authentication information from the ignition key when it is detected that the door is unlocked, and

only when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked and the authentication information included in the auxiliary battery control section coincides with the authentication information obtained by the vehicle, the auxiliary battery control section ~~boots~~ is operable to boot up the computer by starting a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer.

5. (Currently Amended) A power control unit for controlling a power supply of a computer, which operates by obtaining a power supply from a main power source during normal operation, in a vehicle including an unlocking/locking detecting section for detecting whether or not a door of a vehicle is unlocked/locked, an ignition key detecting section for detecting whether or not an ignition key is switched from ~~ON to OFF~~ OFF to ON, and an auxiliary battery for supplying power to the computer, said power control unit comprising:

a time measuring section for measuring ~~a predetermined~~ an amount of time from when the unlocking/locking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked;

an auxiliary battery control section for booting up the computer by starting ~~a~~ the power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer if the unlocking/locking detecting section does not detect that the door of the vehicle is locked ~~while~~ after the time measuring section ~~measures the~~ has measured a predetermined amount of time; and

a power source switching section for stopping a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer and starting a power supply from the main power source to the computer when

the ignition key detecting section detects that the ignition key is switched from OFF to ON during the power supply from the auxiliary battery.

6. (Currently Amended) A power control unit for controlling a power supply of a computer, which operates by obtaining a power supply from a main power source during normal operation, in a vehicle including an unlocking detecting section for detecting whether or not a door of the vehicle is unlocked, an ignition key detecting section for detecting whether or not an ignition key is switched from ~~ON to OFF~~ OFF to ON, an auxiliary battery for supplying power to the computer, and a user detecting section for detecting whether or not a user gets in the vehicle, said power control unit comprising:

an auxiliary battery control section for booting up the computer by starting ~~a~~ the power supply from the auxiliary battery installed in the vehicle to the computer when the user detecting section detects that the user gets in the vehicle after the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked; and

a power source switching section for stopping a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer and starting a power supply from the main power source to the computer when the ignition key detecting section detects that the ignition key is switched from OFF to ON during the power supply from the auxiliary battery.

7. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-installed apparatus for controlling a power supply of a computer, which operates by obtaining a power supply from a main power source during normal operation, in a vehicle including an unlocking detecting section for detecting whether or not a door of the vehicle is unlocked and an ignition key detecting section for detecting whether or not an ignition key is switched from ~~ON to OFF~~ OFF to ON, said apparatus comprising:

an auxiliary battery for supplying power to the computer;

an auxiliary battery control section for booting up the computer by starting ~~a~~ the power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked; and

a power source switching section for stopping a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer and starting a power supply from the main power source to the computer when the ignition key detecting section detects that the ignition key is switched from OFF to ON during the power supply from the auxiliary battery.

8. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-installed apparatus for controlling a power supply of a computer, which operates by obtaining a power supply from a main power source during normal operation, in a vehicle including an unlocking/locking detecting section for detecting whether or not a door of the vehicle is unlocked/locked, and an ignition key detecting section for detecting whether or not an ignition key is switched from ~~ON to OFF~~ OFF to ON, said apparatus comprising:

an auxiliary battery for supplying power to the computer;

a time measuring section for measuring ~~a predetermined~~ an amount of time from when the unlocking/locking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked;

an auxiliary battery control section for booting up the computer by starting ~~a~~ the power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer if the unlocking/locking section does not detect that the door of the vehicle is locked ~~while~~ after the time measuring section ~~measures the~~ has measured a predetermined amount of time; and

a power source switching section for stopping a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer and starting a power supply from the main power source to the computer when the ignition key detecting section detects that the ignition key is switched from OFF to ON during the power supply from the auxiliary battery.

9. (Currently Amended) A vehicle-installed apparatus for controlling a power supply of a computer, which operates by obtaining a power supply from a main power source during normal operation, in a vehicle including an unlocking detecting section for detecting whether or not a door of the vehicle is unlocked, an ignition key detecting section for detecting whether or

not an ignition key is switched from ~~ON to OFF~~ OFF to ON, and a user detecting section for detecting whether or not a user gets in the vehicle, said apparatus comprising:

an auxiliary battery for supplying power to the computer;

an auxiliary battery control section for booting up the computer by starting ~~a~~ the power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer when the user detecting section detects that the user gets in the vehicle after the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked; and

a power source switching section for stopping a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer and starting a power supply from the main power source to the computer when the ignition key detecting section detects that the ignition key is switched from OFF to ON during the power supply from the auxiliary battery.

10. (New) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the auxiliary battery control section is operable to monitor an amount of power remaining in the auxiliary battery, and to boot up the computer by starting a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer only when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked and the amount of power remaining in the auxiliary battery is equal to or greater than a predetermined value.

11. (New) The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a state determining section for determining a start state and end state of the computer, wherein

the auxiliary battery control section is operable to boot up the computer by starting a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer only when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked and the state determining section determines that the computer is in a state in which it cannot be booted up unless an initial boot-up is completed.

12. (New) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

the ignition key of the vehicle and the auxiliary battery control section include authentication information for identifying a user of the vehicle,

the vehicle is operable to obtain the authentication information from the ignition key when it is detected that the door is unlocked, and

only when the unlocking detecting section detects that the door is unlocked and the authentication information included in the auxiliary battery control section coincides with the authentication information obtained by the vehicle, the auxiliary battery control section is operable to boot up the computer by starting a power supply from the auxiliary battery to the computer.